

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A metal strand, comprising: at least two filaments, wherein at least one filament is interrupted to provide at least one filament end, wherein said one filament end is fixed to ~~an uninterrupted~~ a second filament of said strand using a fixing substance, and wherein the second filament is uninterrupted.
2. (Original) A metal strand according to claim 1, said strand having an interruption zone, at each side of said interruption zone, at least one filament end being fixed to said uninterrupted filaments.
3. (Previously Presented) A metal strand according to claim 1, said fixing substance being a glue.
4. (Previously Presented) A metal strand according to claim 1, said fixing substance being a polymer.
5. (Previously Presented) A metal strand according to claim 1, said fixing substance being a soldering substance.
6. (Previously Presented) A metal strand according to claim 5, said soldering substance having a melting temperature lower than 700°C.
7. (Previously Presented) A metal strand according to claim 5, said soldering substance being chosen out of the group consisting of Ag, Sn or Ag-Sn alloys.
8. (Previously Presented) A metal strand according to claim 1, wherein only one filament is interrupted.

9. (Previously Presented) A metal strand according to claim 1, said strand having a strand diameter, a diameter of fixation of filament ends being essentially equal to said strand diameter.

10. (Previously Presented) A metal strand according to claim 1, wherein the strand diameter is smaller than 5mm.

11. (Previously Presented) A metal strand according to claim 1, wherein the strand diameter is smaller than 2.5mm.

12. (Previously Presented) A metal strand according to claim 1, wherein said filaments have a filament diameter, said filament diameter being smaller than 1.15mm.

13. (Previously Presented) A metal strand according to claim 1, wherein the filament diameter is smaller than 0.35mm.

14. (Previously Presented) A metal strand according to claim 2, wherein the strand at the interruption zone has a force at rupture of more than 50% of the force at rupture of said strand outside said interruption zone.

15. (Previously Presented) A metal strand according to claim 2, wherein the strand at the interruption zone has an elongation at rupture of more than 30% of the elongation at rupture of said strand outside said interruption zone.

16. (Previously Presented) A metal strand according to claim 1, said metal being steel.

17. (Previously Presented) A metal cord comprising at least two metal strands, at least one of said strands being a metal strand as in claim 1.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously Presented) A reinforced polymer, comprising the metal strand according to claim 1.

20. (Previously Presented) A reinforced polymer as claimed in claim 19, wherein said reinforced polymer is an elevator belt.

21. (Previously Presented) A reinforced polymer as claimed in claim 19, wherein said reinforced polymer is a timing belt.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously Presented) A reinforced polymer as claimed in claim 19, wherein said reinforced polymer is a hoisting rope.

24. (Previously Presented) A reinforced polymer as claimed in claim 19, wherein said reinforced polymer is a control cable.

25. (Previously Presented) A reinforced polymer as claimed in claim 19, wherein said reinforced polymer is a suspension rope.

26. (Previously Presented) A metal strand according to claim 1, wherein the fixing substance is disposed at the end of the filament end.

27. (Previously Presented) A metal strand according to claim 1, wherein at least one filament serves as a core filament and at least one other filament serves as a filament that encircles that at least one core filament.

28. (Previously Presented) A metal strand according to claim 2, wherein the interruption zone is formed by two filament ends that are spaced apart from one another to form an interruption zone with a length corresponding to the distance between the spaced apart filament ends.

29. (Previously Presented) A metal strand according to claim 28, wherein the two filament ends are formed from a single filament.

30. (Previously Presented) A reinforced polymer as claimed in claim 19, wherein said reinforced polymer is a reinforced rubber belt.

31. (Previously Presented) A reinforced polymer as claimed in claim 19, wherein said reinforced polymer is a reinforced tire.

32. (Previously Presented) A reinforced polymer as claimed in claim 19, wherein said reinforced polymer is a hoisting belt.

33. (Previously Presented) A reinforced polymer as claimed in claim 19, wherein said reinforced polymer is an elevator rope.